



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
Water Department
PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Taking Care of You & Your Water

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego Water Department will return to its regular method of water treatment today, January 12, 2006, by going back to using chloramines, a combination of chlorine and ammonia, to disinfect San Diego's drinking water. Since December 22, 2005, the Water Department has used only chlorine as a disinfectant as part of system maintenance.

“Over the course of approximately three weeks, we closely monitored the progress of this temporary disinfectant change,” said Charles Yackly, Acting Water Department Director. “We are glad to announce that we achieved our goals for ensuring the protection of water quality and maintenance of the drinking water distribution system. We want to thank the community for their patience and cooperation as we work to take care of them by taking care of their water.”

Changing the disinfection method is a common practice of water utilities using chloramines. Residents will possibly notice their water changing in taste and odor to how it was previous to December 22, 2005. This temporary change was due to last until January 19, 2006, but monitoring showed the required results have already been achieved.

It will take up to four days for the chlorine residual to dissipate throughout the system. Dialysis centers and patients, fish owners (with fish aquariums or ponds), and local pet and aquarium supply stores, should monitor the water supply and make any necessary changes during this time.

For more information, please visit www.sandiego.gov/water. If you have any questions regarding the quality of water we deliver, please contact the Water Quality Lab at (619) 668-3232.

The Water Department maintains the water system that serves San Diego, and provides treated water service to the City of Del Mar, and wholesale water service to the California-American Water Company delivering water to Coronado, Imperial Beach, and portions of southern San Diego. This includes the treatment and delivery of more than 200 million gallons of water per day that is transported through more than 3,000 miles of pipelines. For more information about the Water Department's programs and services, please visit www.sandiego.gov/water or call (619) 515-3500 for general information.